

Applic. No.: 09/994,741
Amdt. Dated September 28, 2005
Reply to Office action of July 25, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1-6 and 9-21 remain in the application. Claim 1 has been amended. Claims 7-8 have been cancelled. Claims 10-21 have been allowed.

In item 3 on pages 3-4 of the above-mentioned Office action, claims 1, 3-6, and 9 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Dawson (US 4,373,558) in view of Seaborn (US 3,555,587) under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

In item 4 on page 4 of the above-mentioned Office action, claim 2 has been rejected as being unpatentable over Dawson as modified by Seaborn and in further view of November (US 2,555,290) under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

The rejections have been noted and claim 1 has been amended in an effort to even more clearly define the invention of the instant application.

More specifically, the feature of claim 7 has been added to claim 1. Since claim 7 contains allowable subject matter as indicated in item 5 on page 5 of the Office action, claim 1 is

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now believed to be allowable. Since claims 2-6 and 9 are dependent on claim 1, they are believed to be patentable as well.

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's statement in item 5 on page 5 of the above-mentioned Office action that claim 7 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The feature of claim 7 has been added to claim 1.

Applicants also acknowledge the Examiner's statement in item 6 on page 5 of the above-mentioned Office action that claims 10-21 are allowed.

In view of the foregoing, an early issuance of a Notice of Allowance for claims 1-6 and 9-21 is solicited.

In the event the Examiner should still find any of the claims to be unpatentable, counsel would appreciate a telephone call so that, if possible, patentable language can be worked out.

If an extension of time for this paper is required, petition for extension is herewith made. Please charge any fees which might be due with respect to 37 CFR Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to

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the Deposit Account of Lerner and Greenberg, P.A., No. 12-
1099.

Respectfully submitted,

Yonghong Chen
Reg. No. 56,150

Yonghong Chen
For Applicants

YC

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Lerner and Greenberg, P.A.
Post Office Box 2480
Hollywood, FL 33022-2480
Tel: (954) 925-1100
Fax: (954) 925-1101